has been continued in terms of Government of India resolution dated 09.09.2004. However, the National Commission for Scheduled Castes enjoys a constitutional status.

(c) and (d) The NCSK has so far submitted six reports. Four reports have already been laid on the table of both Houses with Action Taken Memoranda.

Caste -based discrimination at AIIMS

3003. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minister is aware of the caste- based discrimination and harassment of students and doctors at AIIMS;

(b) if so, the action taken by Govern ment ;

(c) whether the officials responsible have been identified and punished;

(d) whether the Director of the Institute is a party to such discrimination; and

(e) if so, the action contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has con stituted a Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. Sukha Deo Thorat, Chairman University Grants Commission to look into the complaints from Memb ers of Parliament, media reports and other representations on the alleged harassment to SC/ST students in All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

Grants-in-aid for NGOs/voluntary organisations

3004. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of grants-in-aid released to NGOs/voluntary organisations in Uttar Pradesh under various programmes/schemes for SCs, STs, OBCs and physically challanged categories during the last two years;

(b) the details of coordination in the Ministry in implementing the programmes through NGOs/voluantry organisations meant for SCs/STs/ OBCs and physically challenged;

(c) whether any study has since been conducted by the Ministry to check the proper utilization of grants by these NGOs organisations for the schemes meant for SCs/STs/OBCs and physically challenged in Uttar Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) The details of grants-in-aid released to Non-Governmental Organisations in Uttar Pradesh under various schemes/programmes for SCs, STs, OBCs and physically challenged categories during last two years is given in the Statement (*See* below),

(b) Before sanctioning grants-in-aid to the NGOs recommendations from the concerned State Governments are obtained. Installments of grants-in-aid are released after evaluation of their performance and satisfactory inspection report.

(c) to (e)The utilization of grant by the NGO are monitored through half yearly progress reports and annual inspections carried out by State Governments/Ministry's officials/designated agencies.

Statement

Details of grants-in-aid released to NGOs/Voluntary Organisations of Uttar Pradesh during last two years

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs) 2005-06	2006-07
1	2	3	4
1.	Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of AIDS/ Appliances (ADIP)	2720.00	2992.00
2.	Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme	152.06	138.98

1	2	3	4
3.	Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the welfare of Other Backward Classes	55.47	47.97
4.	Scheme of grant-in-aid to voluntary organisations working for Scheduled Castes	297.00	309.00
5.	Scheme of Coaching and Allied assistance for weaker section including SC,OBC and Minority	15.93	Nil

Exploitation of dalits

†3005. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a panel of United Nations in March, 2007, has expressed deep concern over the rising incidents of violence against dalit women, cases of their sexual exploitation, trafficking and forceful prostitution;

(b) whether in the meeting of Racial Discrimination Abolition Committee which concluded in March, 2007 in Geneva, the Committee urged Government that special courts and task force should be constituted to deal with such type of menace and also suggested to take disciplinary and criminal action against the police and other officers who do not fulfil their duties to protect these women;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) the steps Government have taken to prevent the harassment of dalits?

THR MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) After considering India's periodic report in February 2007, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination had *inter alia* urged the Government of India for providing members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes protection against acts of discrimination and violence; training for police and judicial officers concerned on the application of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act,1989; disciplinary action against law enforcement officers failing in their duties; providing affected members access to effective remedies, protecting them from retaliation and for making provision for compensation and rehabilitation.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.